

# St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office Re-Accredited; Maintains Excelsior Status by Statewide

Wednesday, June 21, 2017

Ken J. Mascara  
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Headline: St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office Re-Accredited; Maintains Excelsior Status by Statewide Organization

Sheriff Ken Mascara announced today that the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) has re-accredited the St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office for another three years and re-affirmed its status as an Excelsior agency.

The mission of the CFA is to establish standards, oversees an accreditation program, and awards accreditation to compliant Florida law enforcement agencies. The Commission strives to improve the ability of law enforcement agencies to deliver professional public safety services.

According to the Sheriff, the CFA facilitates a peer-led evaluation process every three years by which participating agencies are measured against industry-recognized standards of excellence.

"The fact that our agency has yet again been re-accredited is a testament to the innovative and high efficiency of our agency and the dedicated work each and every day by our employees to keep our community safe," said Sheriff Ken J. Mascara.

According to the Sheriff, the agency has maintained "Excelsior" status with the CFA having achieved five or more consecutive on-site assessments without any conditions for improvement. In addition, the agency remains one of the first in Florida to achieve accreditation and the first to be awarded the Excelsior status.

In 1993, Florida Statute 943.125 encouraged the Florida Sheriffs Association (FSA) and the Florida Police Chiefs Association (FPCA) to create an independent voluntary law enforcement agency accreditation program. The movement by law enforcement professionals to create accrediting bodies is in response to a need to ensure the public that quality services are delivered in accordance with recognized and accepted standards. Representatives from FSA and FPCA developed an accreditation program, modeled after the national accreditation program, which requires compliance with more than 260 professional standards designed specifically for Florida law enforcement agencies.

The Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. was established by charter December 13, 1994 and incorporated on February 9, 1995. It is an independent, tax-exempt, not-for-profit corporation designated as the accrediting body for Florida law enforcement agencies and Inspectors General Offices. The Commission's purpose is to establish a program for accreditation that can be achieved by all Florida law enforcement agencies and IG Offices.



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carrying out the orders of Florida courts and the Board of County Commissioners, and providing deputies at court sessions and meetings of the Board of County Commissioners. The Sheriff is the chief correctional officer of the county. Sheriff Ken J. Mascara is elected by the people of St. Lucie County and is accountable to them.

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